

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-44 (Canceled).

45. (New) A female electrical terminal, comprising:

a contact section for mating with a complementary male terminal, the contact section including a bottom wall; a first set of sidewalls that define a first tubular portion with the bottom wall; and a second set of sidewalls, which are longer than the first set of sidewalls, that define a second tubular portion with the bottom wall, the second tubular portion arranged end to end with the first tubular portion; and

a flexible contact element at least partially disposed within the contact section for urging a complementary male terminal into engagement with the bottom wall.

46. (New) The female electrical terminal of claim 45, wherein the flexible contact element includes a leading edge that is positioned outside of the contact section.

47. (New) The female electrical terminal of claim 45, wherein the flexible contact element includes a leading edge, and wherein the female electrical terminal is devoid of any structure prohibiting access to the flexible contact element leading edge.

48. (New) A female electrical terminal, comprising:

a contact section for mating with a complementary male terminal, the contact section including a first tubular portion comprising a first set of sidewalls; and a second tubular portion comprising a second set of sidewalls and being arranged end to end with the first tubular portion; wherein central axes of the first and second tubular portions are misaligned; and

a flexible contact element at least partially disposed within the contact section for urging a complementary male terminal into engagement with the bottom wall.

49. (New) The female electrical terminal of claim 48, wherein the flexible contact element includes a leading edge that resides outside of the contact section.

50. (New) The female electrical terminal of claim 48, wherein the flexible contact element includes a leading edge, and wherein the female electrical terminal is devoid of any structure prohibiting access to the flexible contact element leading edge.

51. (New) The female electrical terminal of claim 48, wherein an opening is defined at an interface between the first tubular portion and the second tubular portion; and wherein a portion of the flexible contact element extends into the opening.

52. (New) A female electrical terminal, comprising:

a contact section for mating with a complementary male terminal, the contact section including a first tubular portion comprising a first set of sidewalls; and a second tubular portion comprising a second set of sidewalls and being arranged end to end with the first tubular portion; wherein the first tubular portion has an effective diameter that is a different size than that of the second tubular portion; and

a flexible contact element at least partially disposed within the contact section for urging a complementary male terminal into engagement with the bottom wall.

53. (New) The female electrical terminal of claim 52, wherein the flexible contact element includes a leading edge, and wherein the female electrical terminal is devoid of any structure prohibiting access to the flexible contact element leading edge.

54. (New) A female electrical connector, comprising:

a contact section including a set of converging sidewalls that define an insertion pathway for a complementary male terminal, the insertion pathway having a diameter that is smaller than a tubular portion that is proximate the set of converging sidewalls; and

a flexible contact element partially disposed within the contact section for urging a complementary male terminal into engagement with a contact section bottom wall;

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wherein female electrical terminal is devoid of any structure prohibiting access to a leading edge of the flexible contact element.